



Growth Group Discussion Questions for Galatians 1:1-5
Week of September 8-11, 2019

1. Scripture memory: Memorize, meditate on, and be ready to recite Gal. 2:16.
2. Carefully read Galatians 1, focusing especially in verses 1-5.
3. The apostle Paul addresses this letter “to the churches of Galatia” (1:2). It is likely that the churches he has in mind are the churches that began with Paul’s missionary work on his first missionary journey (46-47 AD): Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, and Derbe (see the attached map). Read Acts 13:13 thru 15:2 for important background on the dynamics in these churches. Was Paul and his gospel preaching well received in these cities? Why or why not? What opposition did he face?

4. Paul begins his letter to these churches with a customary greeting.
 - a) Where did Paul get his credential as an apostle? (vss 1-2; see Acts 9:1-16)

 - b) Paul disliked boasting or lifting himself up. Why do you think he was unusually forceful in defending his apostleship? (think of the context from Acts 13-14) What was at stake in these churches?

5. The main theme of Paul’s letter to the churches of Galatia is the gospel – the importance of getting it right. It’s vital that we have a proper grasp of the work of Christ on the cross and its implications, and it’s vital to understanding Paul’s arguments in the rest of the letter. What thoughts or gospel truths come to your mind in each of the phrases Paul uses in vv. 4-5:
 - a) “who gave himself” (Mark 10:45, John 10:17-18)

 - b) “for our sins” (Rom. 3:23-25)

 - c) “to deliver us” (Col. 1:13)

d) “from the present evil age” (Eph. 2:1-3, 1 Pet. 2:9)

e) “according to the will of our God and Father” (Isaiah 53:10-12, Acts 2:22-24)

f) “to whom be the glory forever and ever. Amen.” (Eph. 1:4-6, 11-12)

6. It’s been said that the gospel is a rescue. From what does every sinner need to be delivered (or rescued)? Think of as much as you can. (v. 4; e.g., Matt. 6:13, Col. 1:13, 1 Thess. 1:10, 2 Thess. 3:2, 2 Tim. 4:18, 2 Pet. 2:9)

7. Paul prayed for “grace and peace” to be with the Galatians (v.3). These are not just nice pleasantries in a greeting of a letter for the Christian. What grace and peace do we experience as believers and how are they connected to the gospel?
(Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 3:23-24, 5:1, 15:13; Eph. 4:3, Phil. 4:7, Col. 3:15, 2 Thess. 3:16)

8. What principles or thoughts had the most impact on you from the message on Sunday, Sept. 8th? How were you specifically challenged? What points of application did you take away from the message?

PRAY IN THE GROUP: Pray for our Growth Groups – that God would do deep work in the hearts of all who participate this year, to grow in our knowledge and love of God, to grow in our character, to grow in our spiritual depth, and to grow in our relationships.

The Setting of Galatians

